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About Richard Blade

Welcome to Volume 3 of *Richard Blade's Flashback Favorites*! The response has been overwhelming from Volume 1 so we decided to make a series out of it. If this is the first time you have seen or heard of Richard Blade, here is some background information-Richard Blade, born and raised in England, came to the United States in the 1980's to pursue a career in radio. He quickly graduated to "big time" radio at KNAC in Los Angeles. After learning of an opportunity to fill a temporary vacancy for a vacationing DJ at cross town rival KROQ, Richard moved into action. Soon after, Richard was hired as full time staff at KROQ. During his mid-day shift Richard now hosts the popular lunch time show "Richard Blade's Flashback Lunch".

In addition to radio, Richard has assembled an impressive resume including film credits in "Spellcaster", Girls Just Want To Have Fun" and "She's Having A Baby". He has also hosted programs for "Prime Ticket" and "Movietime" and appeared in a long list of TV shows including "Hunter", "Square Pegs" and "Superior Court".

Despite his success Richard remains a very approachable guy. He makes appearances at local nightclubs and spins the best new music together with his favorite New Wave classics. Years after his start at KROQ Richard is as popular as ever with the bands and, most importantly, the fans of alternative music.

Welcome to Volume 3 of *Richard Blade's Flashback Favorites*. Once again we are endeavoring to bring you some of the hardest to find New Wave Classics, some of the songs that are featured daily on the Flashback Lunch on KROQ, and on similar programs around the country. In my twelve years at KROQ, I've seen the music evolve from progressive pop to hard-core grunge, but one thing has always remained constant, and that is the appetite of the listener for the hard to find rarities. On this CD you'll find some of those songs you've been looking for, including the most requested long versions. I'd like to dedicate this to all the staff of KROQ, including Trip, Kevin, Gene, Darcy, Scott, Rick, Larry, Kevin & Bean, Tami, Jed, Doug, Freddie, Raymond, Michelle and Rodney. And to all the listeners, especially Dede the Flashback Queen, this CD is for you.

WIRE TRAIN "Chamber Of Hellos"

Another band that hailed from 415 Records, Wire Train put out great pop

albums, filled with lush production and terrific vocals. Their first LP in 1983 *In A Chamber* featured two outstanding cuts "Chamber Of Hellos" and "I'll Do You". The haunting vocals on "Hello" belong to Kurt Herr, who along with his partner Kevin Hunter wrote and sung nearly all their material. Though the band seemed to disappear in the mid-eighties, they released a self titled album in 1990 on MCA. Since then however not much has been heard from **Wire Train**.

THE BONGOS "Numbers With Wings"

This four piece group released an LP on RCA in 1983, and promptly disappeared from the face of the world. The five track vinyl record featured two great cuts, "Barbarella" and the title track "Numbers With Wings".

THE BUGGLES "Clean Clean"

Who said "The whole is greater than the sum of its parts"? In the case of **The Buggles**, just the opposite applied. Together Geoffrey Downes and Trevor Horn made light-weight pop, separately they became stars in their own right, Geoffrey with **Yes** and **Asia** and Trevor as the super producer of the 1980's responsible for acts as diverse as **ABC**, **Malcolm McLaren**, **Art of Noise** and of course **Frankie Goes To Hollywood**. As **The Buggles**, they wrote and produced the first video ever shown on MTV (thanks Mark Goodman) "Video Killed The Radio Star", and "Clean Clean" which hit the British charts in April 1980.

20/20 "Yellow Pills"

LA band makes good. Actually **20/20** never really cracked the big time, which was a shame as they were a hard working group who gigged a lot. **20/20's** first album was produced by Earl Mankey who once performed vocal duties with **The Sparks**. Their biggest success "Yellow Pills" was from their 1979 debut album called, strangely enough *20/20*. In 1981 they released *Look Out* and their last album, *Sex Trap*, was released in 1983. I got to DJ at one of their gigs at Cal State L.A., and I was very impressed by the band.

ROMANTICS "What I Like About You"

This perennial club and radio favorite has kept The Romantics career going for more than a

decade. Despite other minor hits like "Talking In Your Sleep" nothing matched this song's success. The group put out four albums before losing their singer and drummer Jimmy Marinos. The rest of the band stayed together for one more album, *Rhythm Romance* which failed to make an impact, the band's legacy remains "What I Like About You". Club DJ's have used this record to pack the floor during a lull, night after night, and we've all heard it in countless beer commercials. Anyone want a Bud Lite™?

HUMAN SEXUAL RESPONSE "What Does Sex Mean To Me"

Boy, the things you could write about a band with a name like this. **Human Sexual Response** became cult favorites with songs like "Jackie Onassis" and "What Does Sex Mean To Me". However the songs became better known than the band who after two albums *Figure 14* and *Pound*, faded from sight.

XTC "Making Plans For Nigel"

XTC, led by Andy Partridge, are one of the most innovative and occasionally controversial bands that have come out of the early "New Wave" movement. Songs such as "Dear God" and "Making Plans For Nigel" point out hypocrisy and man's inconsistencies to his fellow man. The song "Nigel" and its accompanying manic video point out every teenagers fear of "don't worry, we'll take care of you - in our way!" Ironically, it is a form of fear that has held back **XTC**. Lead singer Andy Partridge has such chronic "stage fright" or agoraphobia, that he finds it impossible to tour or play in front of an audience. This is very unfortunate as the times I've gotten to interview Andy I've found him funny, bright and exceptionally talented.

GARY MYRICK & THE FIGURES "She Talks In Stereo"

A charismatic live performer, **Gary Myrick** has been on the verge of major success since 1980. Two of his songs, "She Talks In Stereo" and "Guitar, Talk, Love and Drums", picked up substantial radio airplay, but for some reason the public didn't pick up on those tracks. Gary disbanded **The Figures** after a few years and gigged (and is still gigging) with a number of other groups. Hopefully **Gary Myrick** will eventually achieve the breakthrough he deserves.

FELONY "The Fanatic"

Jeffry Spry and Felony came out of the LA scene in late 1982 with the massive KROQ hit "The

Fanatic". Hoping it was their ticket to the big time, **Felony** put out a video and hit the road, gigging all over California with bands like **Berlin** and **The Motels**. Their follow up "Gladiator School" failed to make an impression and slowly the band split up. Jeffry passed away in 1992, and I remember him fondly as he pushed success. He once said to me "Richard, I won't always be chasing limousines, one day I'll have my own". He was a good guy.

BLANCMANGE "Don't Tell Me"

One of my favorite duos of the early 1980's, **Blancmange** - named after an English dessert - was Stephen Luscombe and Neil Arthur. **Blancmange** were willing to mix dance rhythms with strange and unusual musical textures, to come up with some unique and appealing music. Their three biggest hits "Living On The Ceiling", "Blind Vision" and "Don't Tell Me", were all squarely aimed at the club scene, but all became British chart smashes as well, peaking at number 7,10, and 8 respectively. The band split in 1986 after just three albums to pursue separate musical endeavors, none of which has equaled **Blancmange**.

EBN-OZN "AEIOU Sometimes Y"

In 1984 this New York based duo released an exercise in the English language. However their names were also an exercise in themselves. Ebn (pronounced Eeben) and Ozn (pronounced Ohzen) wrote and produced their debut album and videos. The album featured tracks that were desperately trendy, reflecting the time with titles like "TV Guide", "Pop Art Bop" and "Video DJ". I'm almost surprised they didn't have a cut called "Dynasty". The stand-out on the album was unmistakably " AEIOU Sometimes Y". **Ebn Ozn** was unable to follow up its success. I guess they ran out of vowels.

SOFT CELL "Tainted Love/Where Did Our Love Go"

Soft Cell have the dubious distinction with "Tainted Love", of having the single that remained on Billboards Hot 100 chart longer than any other record that didn't make number one. That distinction aside, **Marc Almond** and **David Ball** helped define (along with **Human League's** "Don't You Want Me"), the early face of "New Wave". "Tainted Love's" irresistibly catchy dance beat became even more effective when coupled with the remake of "Where Did Our Love Go". And at more than eight minutes long it provided a great break for the DJ (unless they segued it into "Nowhere Girl" - ask your favorite club

jock about it, they know the segue.) **Soft Cell** broke up in 1984 with both members pursuing solo music careers. By far the most successful is **Marc Almond** who has scored several times, most notably with his album *The Stars We Are*.

P.S. "Tainted Love" was not an original song. It had been written many years before by Ed Cobb, and had been a minor hit for soul singer **Gloria Jones**.

Thanks!

Thanks to all the people that contributed to this CD including Marcia Caprioglio, Rene Hernandez, Lisa Sutton, Michael Schwartz, Todd Farcau, Robert Peitzman, the hard working DJs at DJs To Go, and the gang at Sony: Harold, Harry, Deborah, Doug, Scott, Helen, Vincent, Rich, Tom, Todd, Lucy and Arba.

Oglio Records

Oglio Records was created to preserve and make available the "New Wave" music of the late 1970's and early 1980's. Oglio Records is dedicated to the reissue of classic New Wave material that has fallen out of print or become a victim of the compact disc revolution. This will be accomplished through the creation of new compilation albums and the re-release of original albums.

New Wave music is my passion. My goal is to provide New Wave fans with quality compact disc recordings of our favorite music.

Carl Caprioglio

Oglio Records

New Wave Fan Club

Join the club! If you are a frustrated New Wave fan looking for that lost New Wave classic, we would love to hear from you. Just answer these simple questions or make up your own.....

What did you like about this CD? Which songs are your favorites? What songs would you like to see on future compilations? Where did you buy this CD? How much did you pay for it? What is your favorite new song? Is there a radio station that plays New Wave in your area? In return for tolerating our interrogation we will put you on our exclusive mailing list to receive new release updates and offers that will not be available in stores. Please send your letters to:

Oglio Records New Wave Fan Club PO Box 404-Dept.RB3 Redondo Beach, CA 90277

Producer: Carl Caprioglio Art Design: Lisa Sutton Cover Photo: Michael Schwartz Sequencing: Rene Hernandez

Also available from Oglio Records:

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